



*Office of the United States Attorney  
District of Arizona*

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**June 26, 2002**

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# **SACATON MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO SECOND DEGREE MURDER OF 9-MONTH- OLD CHILD**

**PHOENIX, ARIZONA** -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on June 26, 2002, Delmer Vavages, 8/21/62, of Sacaton, Arizona, pled guilty to CIR-Second Degree Murder, in federal district court in Phoenix, Arizona.

Delmer Vavages, had been charged with violating Title 18 of the United States Code, Sections 1153 and 1111. He admitted to causing the death of the 9-month-old child by repeatedly shaking and assaulting her.

A conviction for Second Degree Murder carries a maximum penalty of Life, a \$250,000 fine or both. His plea agreement calls for a stipulated 25 year sentence.

Sentencing is set before Judge Roger Strand on September 4, 2002 at 9:30 a.m.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Gila River Police Department.

The prosecution is being handled by Sharon K. Smith, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-0916-PHX-RGS  
RELEASE NUMBER: 2002-119

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